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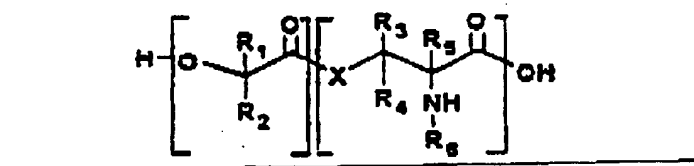
Application No. 10/620,686
Response Date: December 4, 2006
Reply to Office Action: September 11, 2006

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Amendments to the Claims:

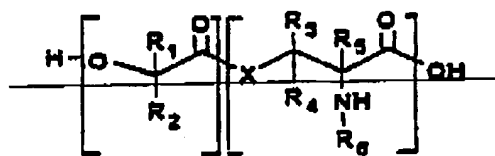
1. to 70. (Cancelled)

71. (Currently Amended) An immunogenic composition comprising a particulate carrier for delivery of an immunogen ~~biologically active material~~ to a host, said immunogen being chemically bound to said particulate carrier and a physiologically acceptable carrier for said particulate carrier thereof, said particulate carrier comprising a polymer having a molecular weight of about 5000 to about 40,000 daltons and having the general formula:



wherein:

R₁, R₂ and R₄ are selected independently and are selected from H, linear or



branched alkyl groups;

R₃ and R₄ are H;

R₆ is said immunogen ~~selected from H, an amino protecting group, a spacer molecule or a biologically active species;~~

X is selected from an O or S group; and

x and y are integers.

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72. (Originally filed) A method of producing an immune response in a host comprising administering the immunogenic composition of claim 71 to said host.

73. (Originally filed) The method of claim 72, wherein said composition is administered mucosally or parenterally.

74. (Originally filed) The method of claim 72, wherein said immune response is an antibody response.

75. (Originally filed) The method of claim 74, wherein said antibody response is a local or serum antibody response.

76. (Originally filed) The immunogenic composition of claim 71 wherein said particulate carrier has a particle size of about 1 to 10 μm .

77. (Currently amended) The composition of claim 71, wherein said polymer is formed ~~derived~~ by copolymerization of monomers comprising at least one α -hydroxy acid and at least one pseudo- α -amino acid.

78. (Originally filed) The composition of claim 77, wherein the at least one α -hydroxy acid has the formula of $\text{R}_1\text{R}_2\text{COHCO}_2\text{H}$, wherein the R_1 and R_2 groups are H, linear or branched alkyl units, the alkyl unit being represented by the formula $\text{C}_n\text{H}_{2n+1}$, where n = integer of about 1 to 10.

79. (Currently amended) The composition of claim 78, wherein said α -hydroxy acids comprise a mixture of α -hy[[r]]droxy acids, one of said mixture of α -hy[[r]]d[r]oxy acids having R_1 and R_2 groups which are hydrogen and the other of said mixture of α -hydroxy acids having an R_1 group which is CH_3 and R_2 group which is H.

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80. (Originally filed) The composition of claim 77, wherein the at least one pseudo- α -hydroxy acids has the formula $R_5\text{CHNHR}_6\text{CO}_2\text{H}$, wherein the R_5 group is a hydroxyl methyl or methyl thiol group and R_6 is an amine protecting group.

81. (Originally filed) The composition of claim 80, wherein the amine protecting group is selected from the group consisting of carbobenzyloxy (CBZ or Z)m benzyl (Bn)m paramethoxybenzyl (MeOBn), benzyloxymethoxy (BOM), tert-butyloxycarbonyl (t-BOC) and [9-fluorenylmethyl oxy]carbonyl (FMOC).

82. (Originally filed) The composition of claim 77, wherein the at least one α -hydroxy acid is selected from the group consisting of L-lactic acid, D,L-lactic acid, glycolic acid, hydroxy valeric acid and hydroxybutyric acid.

83. (Currently amended) The composition of claim 77, wherein the at least one pseudo- α -amino acid is formed ~~derived~~ from serine.

84. (Originally filed) The composition of claim 71, wherein said at least one α -hydroxy acid monomer and at least one pseudo- α -amino acid monomer are selected to result in poly-D,L-lactide-co-glycolide-co-pseudo-Z-serine ester (PLGpZS).

85. (Originally filed) The composition of claim 71, wherein said at least one α -hydroxy acid monomer and at least one pseudo- α -amino acid monomer are selected to result in poly-D,L-lactide-co-glycolide-co-pseudo-serine ester (PLGpS).

86. (Deleted).